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GADDAFI SAYS HE INSPIRED THE TOPPLING OF THE BERLIN WALL

NICOSIA, July 9, Reuter - Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi has taken the credit for inspiring worldwide political changes, including the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

In a speech carried by the Libyan news agency JANA on Monday, he said his "Green Book" outlining the theory of a Jamahiriya or people's republic had inspired popular movements internationally.

"The people crawled alone to the Berlin Wall without a political decision...the idea of German unity started actually from the Jamahiriya but it is difficult for them to admit that," he said in his speech in Benghazi on Saturday.

Gaddafi, who seized power from King Idris in 1969, renamed his country The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in 1977. His "Green Book" postulates a state in which the people rule and not politicians or a party.

He said changes in Eastern Europe, China, Korea or anywhere else in the world were caused by popular unrest following the Libyan model, rather than political decisions.

"The Green Book came out at a time when nobody thought that what it says would become reality...then, nobody thought that Communism would collapse," he said.

"The people want to rule themselves...establish Jamahirite systems because republics, empires, kingdoms and governments will all fall down in the people's era."

Gaddafi compared initial reaction to his "Green Book" to the response which Christopher Columbus faced in 1492.

"They used to call him and his followers madmen...and the madmen became an example for millions who started following Columbus to the new world, America."

He said no one had accepted his Jamahiriya theory because it came from a small Bedouin country.

"But all religions and philosophies were brought by unknown people who did not know they would be followed by millions after their death," he added, mentioning the Prophet Mohammed and Jesus Christ.

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